Dallal Family Information as compiled by Norman Rozeff, HHPS, November 2010

The very first telephone directory for Harlingen, TX was completed by 11/4/29 and carried the year 1930 on it. The following information has been gleaned from the available directories for that city.

1930  T.G. Dallal, Assistant manager McLellan Stores Co. located at 113-115 W. Jackson Avenue. His residence is given as 1002 E. Jackson. [It is now the parking lot for St. Anthony Catholic Church.]
Gabriel Dallal, Alban Hotel, 117 ½ E. Jackson [This is the second floor above the Stop and Shop Grocery store.] Gabriel resides at 1002 E. Jackson with three youths under 18 years of age.

1931-32  Gabriel listed as retired, still three youngsters in the residence but no wife listed. The Alban Hotel lists Mrs. Catherine Willyard as manager and living at the hotel. Information for T. G. Dallal is the same as for 1930.

1935  Gabriel and one child under 18 are listed at the Jackson Hotel. It is the former Alban Hotel. Barbara Leon is listed as proprietor and living at the hotel along with two children under 18. [In the 1931-32 directory Barbara is noted to be the widow of Fred, having two children at home at 1002 E. Jackson and as the bookkeeper for the Stop & Shop Store. She may have been a Dallal and possibly her husband operated the store.] There is no listing for a T. G. Dallal.

1937-38  D. G. Dallal (wife Minerva), manager Cameron Hotel [formerly the Jackson Hotel] is residing there.[His first initial is incorrect in the directory.]
Gabriel (with wife and one child under 18) the residence is 10012 E. Jackson [Leon is not listed.]

1939 Gabriel Dallal now has a wife-Maggie and is listed as retired. They reside at 1002 E. Jackson with son Francis now over 18 in age.[The Cameron Hotel has W. B. Shaw as proprietor. Shaw is in real estrate. He and his wife Ethel reside at the hotel.]

1941 Gabriel and Maggie the same, but Francis is gone

1942-43 directory compiled 9/30/42 has no Dallals listed.

1944  U.S. Army Pfc. Francis Dallal is residing at 1010 W. Johnson Avenue. Tewfik Dallal with wife Minerva have two children at home. He is an insurance agent. They reside at 1010 W. Johnson.
Rose Dallal is a registered nurse residing at 522 W. Filmore Avenue in the Nurse Home of the Valley Baptist Hospital.

1946  Francis G. Dallal, U.S. Army, resides at 1010 W. Johnson. Tewfik G. Dallal, wife Minerva and two children reside at 1010 W. Johnson Avenue. He is listed as a merchant in Rio Hondo (a small town northeast of Harlingen.)
1948 Dallal Building Offices are at 117½ E. Jackson in former hotel. T. G. Dallal, wife Minerva and two children are residing at 1021 E. Filmore Avenue.

1950 No Dallals are listed. The Dallal Building has Payne's Shoe Store on its ground floor and five professionals renting upstairs.

1952 No Dallals are to be found.

The 1930 Federal Census clarifies the story of the Dallal family. Gabriel Dallal was 55 in 1930 and lists his birthplace as Syrian Arab Republic. In the 1910 census taken when he resided in Omaha, Nebraska his place of birth was still under Turkish rule, and he put down Turkish Syria. His wife in 1910 was Syrian born Mary Danal. In 1930 he is a widower and no occupation is given for him. He owns the house that the family is living in, and it is valued at $1,500.

The 1930 census taken when the family had moved to Harlingen indicates the following:

Lewfik G. Dallal 22, born about 1908 in Nebraska, occupation retail manager retail variety store;
Rosa, 16, Nebraska;
Josephine, 13, Nebraska;
Francis, 5, Nebraska
Living with them is daughter Barbra (as spelled on the census form) Leons, 24, born in Nebraska.
She is married to Fred G. Leons, 26, born in the Syrian Arab Republic.
They have a child, Fred G. Leons, Jr who was born in Nebraska and is 1 year 4 months old. Fred's occupation is barber. They have been married about two years.

The census taker very likely misspelled the Leons surname mistaking it for the more common Hispanic name "Leon".

Robert Ramert (rpramert@sbcglobal.net of Windcrest, TX), who was born and lived in Harlingen, e-mailed an inquiry after seeing an obituary in the San Antonio Express News of October 31, 2010. It noted the death of Rose Kathryn Dallal Reed. The obituary reported that her family lived in Harlingen in the 1920s and had operated a department store and a hotel. Time dims some reminiscences, so the writer of the obituary was only partially correct as far as can be discerned from available information.